

system that's presented is looked at as something that's not enjoyable. So a kid—maybe he does enjoy reading, but perhaps the way it's presented isn't for him. So, he may go away thinking, "I'm no good at English, I can't get it right." But that's not necessarily the case. It may be that the system that the English is being presented [in] the problem. So you need to look at that, it's more than just looking at, "Well, he's just a bad student."

TRIBUTE TO MRS. GLENDA
GRAHAM-HARRIS

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a distinct honor to pay tribute to one of Miami's distinguished educators, Mrs. Glenda Graham-Harris. Her retirement from the Dade County public schools on June 8, 1996, will certainly leave a great void in our community.

She is the daughter of the late Rev. Edward T. Graham, the first African-American ever to serve on the Dade County Board of Commissioners and certainly one of Miami's pre-eminent civil rights crusaders. Mrs. Harris grew up in a family ambience consecrated not only to the insatiable thirst for learning and excellence, but also to the commitment of helping those who could least fend for themselves in their quest for equal treatment under the law.

Heeding the call of service, Mrs. Graham-Harris fully lived up to her father's vocation to serve others. She became an educator. Rising from the classroom trenches into the higher echelon of the Dade County public schools' administration, she was responsible for opening Miami's American Senior High School as its first principal in the mid-1970's. She subsequently exercised other principalships at Miami Shores Elementary School and at Westview Elementary, contributing her resourceful expertise toward the pilot testing of the extended school program and primary education program, two initiatives which now form part and parcel of the school system's curricular activities.

During her 40-year stint in the Dade County public schools, she was known for her unequivocal standards for exacting learning excellence and personal achievement both in the school environment and the homes of her students. Her tremendous success in motivating many a wayward innercity youth earned her the utmost respect and admiration of her colleagues. Her hallmark of excellence was defined by her genuine forthrightness in demanding utmost discipline in complying with her policy on homework and parental involvement long before they were adopted as school-based management activities.

She gained the enormous confidence of countless parents who saw in her as an excellent educator, entrusting her with the future of their children and confident that they too would learn from her the tenets of scholarship under the regimen of a no-nonsense discipline. Her unique approach to educating young boys and girls emphasized personal responsibility and balance accountability. In times of crisis crowding her students' quest for learning, her ever ready guidance and counsel

was one that verged on faith in God and faith in one's ability to succeed, despite all the odds.

During her tenure with the Dade County public schools our community was deeply touched and comforted by her undaunted leadership and utmost understanding of the high stakes involved in the education of our children. She virtually preached and lived by the adage that the quest for personal integrity, academic excellence and professional achievement is not beyond the reach of those willing and ready to work hard and pay the price.

This is the legacy of Mrs. Glenda Graham-Harris. I am indeed greatly privileged to have known her friendship and her contribution to our community's well-being through the acumen of her educational leadership and the timeliness of her professional insights. In the name of the many parents and guardians whose children were deeply touched by her exemplary commitment, I want to thank her and wish her good luck and Godspeed on a well-deserved retirement.

MSGR. ANDREW J. MCGOWAN
HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my close friend, Msgr. Andrew J. McGowan. Monsignor McGowan will be honored for his outstanding community leadership by Leadership Wilkes-Barre, an organization dedicated to fostering leadership in the Greater Wilkes-Barre area. I am pleased to be able to join Leadership Wilkes-Barre area in paying tribute to Monsignor McGowan on June 13.

Mr. Speaker, it is most fitting that Leadership Wilkes-Barre honor Monsignor McGowan, who is one of the most beloved and well-respected individuals in northeastern Pennsylvania. The monsignor has committed himself to the betterment of the lives of everyone in the Greater Wilkes-Barre area. He has freely shared his wit and wisdom which has helped everyone he has touched. Most importantly, Monsignor McGowan's spirituality has been always been a source of strength and faith.

Fifteen years ago, Monsignor McGowan joined several of his colleagues in establishing an organization that could effectively work for the betterment of the Wilkes-Barre community. Today that organization successfully operates as Leadership Wilkes-Barre. Committed to ensuring success for the organization, Monsignor McGowan served as its first board chairman. Upon being selected to lead Leadership Wilkes-Barre, Monsignor McGowan sought effective ways to improve community management. To accomplish this goal, the monsignor helped the organization to structure a year-long class for emerging and existing community leaders, who then educate officials about the needs of the communities in which they live and work. Its curriculum was heavily influenced by Monsignor McGowan's commitment to community growth, understanding of economic development, and an overwhelming compassion for the citizens of the region.

Mr. Speaker, Monsignor McGowan personifies leadership in Wilkes-Barre and throughout

the Wyoming Valley. In addition to his support of Leadership Wilkes-Barre, the Monsignor is the director of Community Affairs and the bishop's representatives for hospitals and colleges in the diocese of Scranton, PA. He has received the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Award, and the B'nai Brith Americanism Award. Monsignor McGowan has been selected as an honorary fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives, and was chosen to receive the 1994 Award of Excellence of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania.

Currently, Monsignor McGowan serves the region as the vice chair of Allied Services Hospital Foundation and chairs the Commission on Economic Opportunity of Luzerne County and the Heinz Institute of Rehab Medicine. The monsignor is also a First Valley Bank board member and generously volunteers his time to serve on the executive committee of the Boy Scout of America, the Luzerne Foundation, and the Scranton Public Library. In addition to these and other organizations, Monsignor McGowan sits on the boards of King's and Marywood Colleges and the Catholic University of America.

Monsignor McGowan served as chairman of the board of the Kirby Center for Performing Arts, the Hospital Trustee Association of Pennsylvania and was a board member of the University of Scranton, College Misericordia, and Mount St. Mary's in Maryland.

The monsignor is probably best known for his masterful use of the English language. He is the most sought after speaker in northeastern Pennsylvania and serves as master of ceremonies for almost every prestigious event in the area. For more than 10 years he has been MC for the Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce annual meeting, and has been at the dais of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick's Day Banquets in both Wilkes-Barre and Scranton for more years than I can remember.

Mr. Speaker, I have always admired Monsignor McGowan for the charming wit and wisdom that he has shared with everyone. Even before being elected to Congress, I had the privilege of working with him for the betterment of northeastern Pennsylvania. Each time we work together, Monsignor McGowan demonstrates skillful and diplomatic problem-solving abilities. His leadership has taught me to be a more effective Member of Congress and a more compassionate and understanding individual. I am very grateful to have Monsignor McGowan among my closest personal friends.

Mr. President, I am extremely pleased to have been asked by Leadership Wilkes-Barre to participate in their tribute to Msgr. Andrew J. McGowan. I am very proud to bring the monsignor's distinguished community service record to the attention of my colleagues, and thank him for his dedication to the people of northeastern Pennsylvania.

HEALTH INSURANCE RELIEF FOR
RETIRED TEACHERS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Representative MATSUI and I are today introducing a bill to provide Medicare part A hospital insurance